

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**SB 2359 - HB 2675**

February 26, 2018

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Authorizes county or district health departments, if approved by the Department of Health (DOH), to establish and operate a needle and hypodermic syringe exchange program on petition of the county legislative body and approval by the DOH.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase Local Expenditures - \$1,775,000/Permissive**

Assumptions:

- There are six metro health departments who report to their county mayors. They receive funding from the state health department for some of their activities.
- There are 89 rural health departments that are state funded.
- Based on a 2008 report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), it costs approximately \$177,500 to run a needle and hypodermic syringe exchange program.
- Assuming 10 percent, or 10  $[(6 + 89) \times 10.0\%]$ , county or district health departments establish and operate a needle and hypodermic syringe exchange program, the permissive increase in local expenditures is estimated to be \$1,775,000 (10 exchange programs x \$177,500).
- Based on information provided by the DOH, the DOH can accommodate any approvals utilizing existing resources without an increased appropriation or reduced reversion.
- The provisions of the proposed legislation could result in possible savings resulting from a decline in expenditures related to the treatment of HIV, hepatitis C, and other blood-borne diseases amount drug users. The time and extent of any savings cannot be quantified with any certainty.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista M. Lee".

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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